

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. (previously presented) A carriage for transporting a container, the carriage comprising:

a chassis comprising a motor housing and a battery receptacle arranged inside the chassis;

at least three wheels connected to the chassis for supporting the chassis, wherein the at least three wheels include two rear wheels;

a handlebar connected to the chassis for guiding the carriage in a state of use, wherein the carriage is convertible from the state of use into a transport state, wherein the chassis in the state of use is arranged such that a longitudinal extension of the chassis is parallel to a ground surface on which the carriage is moved;

a handle connected to the handle bar;

a motor arranged in the motor housing for driving the two rear wheels;

a battery arranged in the battery receptacle for supplying electric energy to the motor for operating the motor;

wherein the rear wheels are provided with halfshafts that are fastened detachably on the chassis;

wherein the chassis has means for securing the rear wheels on the chassis in the transport state.

2. (original) The carriage according to claim 1, wherein the rear wheels in the transport state are supported on the chassis in a position in which the rear wheels lie flat on the chassis, wherein the rear wheels have a diameter and wherein the chassis has a width matching substantially the diameter of the rear wheels, wherein the chassis has a length that is approximately twice as long as the diameter of the rear wheels.

3. (original) The carriage according to claim 1, wherein the means for securing are receptacles arranged on the chassis, wherein the halfshafts are insertable into the receptacles.

4. (original) The carriage according to claim 3, wherein the halfshafts non-positively engage the receptacles.

5. (original) The carriage according to claim 1, wherein the handlebar has an upper section and a lower section, wherein the handle is attached to the upper section,

wherein the lower section is secured on the chassis, wherein the upper and lower sections in the transport state are folded onto the chassis and wherein the rear wheels in the transport state rest on the folded upper and lower sections.

6. (original) The carriage according to claim 1, wherein the handlebar is pivotably supported on the chassis and, in the state of use, is secured without play on the chassis by a screw.

7. (original) The carriage according to claim 6, wherein the screw is supported on the chassis so as to be pivotable out of an area of the handlebar.

8. (original) The carriage according to claim 1, further comprising a frame element arranged on the chassis, wherein the at least three wheels include two front wheels secured on the frame element, wherein the frame element is supported on the chassis so as to be pivotable about a pivot axis extending transversely to a longitudinal direction of the chassis and is folded in the transport state toward the chassis.

9. (previously presented) The carriage according to claim 8, wherein the battery is removably arranged in the battery receptacle.

10. (original) The carriage according to claim 9, wherein the battery receptacle has bow contacts on which poles of the battery are resting.

11. (original) The carriage according to claim 9, wherein the means for securing are receptacles arranged on the chassis, wherein the halfshafts are insertable into the receptacles, the carriage further comprising a plug-in contact arranged on the chassis directly adjacent to one of the receptacles, wherein the battery is connectable to the electric motor via the plug-in contact.

12. (original) The carriage according to claim 9, further comprising a substantially closed gearbox housing arranged on the chassis and a gearbox arranged in the gearbox housing and connected to the electric motor, wherein the carriage is driven by the gearbox that is driven by the electric motor.

13. (previously presented) A carriage for transporting a container, the carriage comprising:

a chassis;

at least three wheels connected to the chassis for supporting the chassis, wherein the at least three wheels include two rear wheels;

a handlebar connected to the chassis for guiding the carriage in a state of use, wherein the carriage is convertible from the state of use into a transport state;

a handle connected to the handle bar;

wherein the rear wheels are provided with halfshafts that are fastened detachably on the chassis;

wherein the chassis has means for securing the rear wheels on the chassis in the transport state;

a frame element arranged on the chassis, wherein the at least three wheels include two front wheels secured on the frame element, wherein the frame element is supported on the chassis so as to be pivotable about a pivot axis extending transversely to a longitudinal direction of the chassis and is folded in the transport state toward the chassis;

an electric motor for driving the carriage and a battery that supplies the electric motor with energy, wherein the chassis has a battery receptacle and the battery is removably arranged in the battery receptacle;

a substantially closed gearbox housing arranged on the chassis and a gearbox arranged in the gearbox housing and connected to the electric motor, wherein the carriage is driven by the gearbox that is driven by the electric motor;

wherein the gearbox housing is formed by a cover arranged externally on the chassis and a lid arranged within the chassis.

14. (previously presented) A carriage for transporting a container, the carriage comprising:

a chassis;

at least three wheels connected to the chassis for supporting the chassis, wherein the at least three wheels include two rear wheels;

a handlebar connected to the chassis for guiding the carriage in a state of use, wherein the carriage is convertible from the state of use into a transport state;

a handle connected to the handle bar;

wherein the rear wheels are provided with halfshafts that are fastened detachably on the chassis;

wherein the chassis has means for securing the rear wheels on the chassis in the transport state;

a frame element arranged on the chassis, wherein the at least three wheels include two front wheels secured on the frame element, wherein the frame element is supported on the chassis so as to be pivotable about a pivot axis extending transversely to a longitudinal direction of the chassis and is folded in the transport state toward the chassis; wherein the frame element has a support for the container, wherein the support for the container secures the battery in the transport state.

15. (original) The carriage according to claim 14, wherein the frame element is secured without play in the state of use by being clamped with a screw on the chassis.

16. (previously presented) The carriage according to claim 1, wherein the handlebar has an upper section and a lower section and an intermediate member connecting the upper and lower sections to one another, wherein the intermediate member is arranged laterally relative to a longitudinal extension of the handlebar, wherein a width of the intermediate member between the upper and the lower sections matches at least a diameter of the halfshafts, and wherein the intermediate member has means for securing the upper and lower sections in defined positions relative to one another.

17. (currently amended) The carriage according to claim 16, wherein the means for securing are receptacles arranged on the chassis, wherein the halfshafts are insertable into the receptacles, and wherein the width of the intermediate member matches an outer diameter of the receptacles for the halfshafts.

18. (original) The carriage according to claim 16, further comprising a support for supporting the container, wherein the support is secured on the intermediate member of the handlebar.

19. (original) The carriage according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the three wheels is provided with a freewheeling action in one rotational direction.

20. (original) The carriage according to claim 1, wherein the chassis is formed of two bent sheet metal parts that are connected to one another by riveting.

21. (original) The carriage according to claim 20, wherein a first one of the sheet metal parts forms a bottom element that is formed as a unitary part having a front wall and a back wall and wherein a second one of the sheet metal parts is a frame that forms a top side and sidewalls of the chassis.

22. (canceled)